

REMARKS

PRIORITY DOCUMENT

Applicant has not yet received a certified copy of the priority document. However, to avoid unnecessary delay in prosecution, Applicant proposes to submit a priority document prior to issuance.

SECTION 112 REJECTION

Applicant amends claims 28 and 29 by placing them in independent form with limitations corresponding to claim 1.

Further, claim 28 is amended to preemptively avoid any section 101 rejection. In particular, claim 28 is amended to recite a "manufacture," as that term is used in 35 USC 101.

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Applicant amends claim 16 to incorporate the additional limitations of claim 17. As claim 17 has been deemed patentable, claim 16 as amended is believed to be patentable.

Claim 17 is cancelled as now being redundant. Claim 21 is amended to avoid dependency on a cancelled claim.

Applicant amends claim 25 to include limitations similar to claim 17. Since claim 17 was deemed patentable, amended claim 25 is also patentable.

In view of the amendment to claim 25, claim 26 has become redundant. Accordingly, claim 26 has been cancelled.

SUMMARY

Now pending in this application are claims 16, 21-25, and 27-29. Claims 16, 25, 28, and 29 are independent.

Please apply the \$200 charge for excess claim fees to deposit account number 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 12816-086001. No other fees are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this amendment. However, to the extent fees are due or a refund is forthcoming, please adjust our deposit account.

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 8, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Faustino A. Lichauco', written over a horizontal line.

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